



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/505,269	08/20/2004	Teunis Hemanus Uittenbogaard	NL 020145	5511

24737 7590 07/26/2006

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
P.O. BOX 3001  
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER
----------

NGUYEN, HIEP

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2816

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/505,269

Applicant(s)

UITTENBOGAARD, TEUNIS  
HEMANUS

Examiner

Hiep Nguyen

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08-20-04 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

The amendment filed on 06-01-06 has been received and entered in the case. New ground of rejections necessitated by the amendment is set forth below.

#### *Drawings*

The drawings are objected to because the blank boxes in figure 1 do not have functional labels. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

#### *Specification*

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the disclosure “When processing system 16 is not active, ... , there is no voltage difference between the anode and the cathode of the diode 104, nor between the control electrode and the main current channel of the transistors 100, 102” page 4, line 14-18 is misleading because when transistors 100 and 102 are turned on to let the input signal go through switch 10, the voltage at the internal node is the voltage of the input signal. The voltage at the anode of diode 104 is

Art Unit: 2816

at a certain voltage thus; there is a voltage difference between the anode and cathode of diode 104. The disclosure “It will be noted that this “on” state of the signal switch 10 does not require any voltage difference to be applied to the signal switch 10. The on-state can be realized without a need for a voltage difference from a supply voltage source” is indefinite because it is confusing. It is not clear where the “any voltage difference” is applied to which part of the signal switch 10. If there is no voltage difference from the supply voltage applied to the switch, the switch will not function.

Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Correction and/or clarification is required.

Regarding claims 1 and 3, the recitation “at least one transistor” on line 14 is indefinite because it is not clear as to this transistor is the first or the second depletion transistor on line 9-10. The recitation “The T-type structure enabling the switch to remain “on” even in the absence of a power supply voltage” on lines 15-16 is indefinite because it is confusing. The T-type structure is the switch itself thus it is not clear to recite that “The T-type structure enabling the switch”. It is not clear how the switch remains “on” when the power supply voltage is absent. The recitation “ wherein the internal mode applies a control voltage that switches the switch to both the transmitter and the diode “of”” is indefinite because it is not clear what the “internal mode” is meant by. The recitation “ the transmitter” lacks antecedent basis. It is not clear how a voltage that is applied to node (101) can switch both “the transmitter” and the diode off. The recitation “ a signal processing arrangement between the internal node and a reference terminal” in claims 1 and 3, line 6-7 is indefinite because it is not clear what is the “reference terminal” in the drawing. Figure 1 of the present

Art Unit: 2816

application shows that line (107) is a common conductor. It is not clear as to the “reference terminal” is a voltage terminal or a ground terminal.

Claims 2 and 4 are indefinite because of the technical deficiencies of claims 1 and 3.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Weir (US 4,595,847).

Regarding claims 1 and 3, figure 2 of Weir shows an electronic signal processing apparatus with a signal switch comprising:

switch input and output (27, 28);

first and second depletion transistors (19, 20);

a signal processing arrangement comprising a diode (23), and a switch control unit (22, 21, 25, 26, 17, 18) wherein the switch has a T-type attenuator structure. Because the transistors are depletion type transistors, they remain “on” when the voltage applied to the gate is zero volt. When transistor (21) is turned on, a high current (i<sub>2</sub>) applies a voltage to the internal node between the conduction terminals of the transistors and the switch is turned off.

Regarding claims 2 and 4, when transistor 21 is turned on the current (i<sub>2</sub>) is large, transistors (19) and (20) is turned off and Zener diode (23) is forward biased.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

Art Unit: 2816

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hiep Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1752. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hiep Nguyen

07-18-06



TUANT.T.LAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER